Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

Claim 17 (previously presented). An electrical circuit for a motor vehicle electrical distribution system, comprising:

a first power supply;

an electrical energy store having a plurality of storage elements and being charged by said first power supply;

a charge-equalizing circuit for charge equalizing between said individual ones of said storage elements of said electrical energy store, said charge-equalizing circuit having a primary circuit and a plurality of secondary circuits, said primary circuit having a primary winding, said secondary circuits each having a secondary winding and are in each case connected in parallel with one of said storage elements;

a first switching element connecting said charge-equalizing circuit to said first power supply; and

a second switching element connecting said charge-equalizing circuit to said electrical energy store, said charge-equalizing circuit in dependence on a switching status of said first and second switching elements effecting charge equalizing and/or charging of said electrical energy store.

Claim 18 (previously presented). The electrical circuit according to claim 17, further comprising:

a second power supply; and

a third switching element connecting said charge-equalizing circuit to said second power supply for charging said electrical energy store optionally from said first power supply or from said second power supply.

Claim 19 (previously presented). The electrical circuit according to claim 18, further comprising a control unit for driving at least one of said first switching element, said second switching element and said third switching element.

Claim 20 (previously presented). The electrical circuit according to claim 19, further comprising a timer connected to said control unit for initializing recharging of said electrical energy store.

Claim 21 (previously presented). The electrical circuit according to claim 19, wherein said control unit has a first comparator unit for comparing a charging level of said electrical energy store with a predefined first minimum value and/or with a predefined maximum value.

Claim 22 (previously presented). The electrical circuit according to claim 21, wherein said control unit has a second comparator unit for comparing a voltage of said first power supply with a second minimum value and will only switch said first switching element through if the second minimum value has been exceeded.

Claim 23 (previously presented). The electrical circuit according to claim 22, wherein said control unit has a third comparator unit for comparing a voltage of said second power supply with a third minimum value and will only switch said third switching element through if the third minimum value has been exceeded.

Claim 24 (previously presented). The electrical circuit according to claim 18, wherein at least one of said first switching element, said second switching element and said third switching element is selected from the group consisting of relays and semiconductor switches.

Claim 25 (previously presented). The electrical circuit according to claim 18, wherein at least one of said first switching element, said second switching element and said third switching element is a transfer gate.

Claim 26 (currently amended). An operating method for an electrical circuit containing an electrical energy store having a plurality of storage elements and a charge-equalizing circuit for charge equalizing between individual ones of the storage elements of the electrical energy store, the charge-equalizing circuit having a primary circuit and a plurality of secondary circuits, the primary circuit of the charge-equalizing circuit having a primary winding, the secondary circuits of the charge-equalizing circuit each ~~have~~ having a secondary winding and in each case being connected in parallel with an individual one of the storage elements, which comprises the steps of:

charging the electrical energy store ~~using~~ substantially exclusively through the primary and secondary windings of the charge-equalizing circuit; and

charge equalizing between individual ones of the storage elements of the electrical energy store by the charge-equalizing circuit.

Claim 27 (previously presented). The operating method according to claim 26, which further comprises connecting the charge-equalizing circuit for charging the electrical energy store to a first power supply or a second power supply.

Claim 28 (previously presented). The operating method according to claim 27, which further comprises:

measuring an output voltage of the first power supply;

comparing a measured output voltage with a first minimum value; and

connecting the charge-equalizing circuit to the first power supply only if the first minimum value has been exceeded.

Claim 29 (previously presented). The operating method according to claim 28, which further comprises:

measuring an output voltage of the second power supply;

comparing a measured output voltage of the second power supply with a second minimum value; and

connecting the charge-equalizing circuit to the second power supply only if the second minimum value has been exceeded.

Claim 30 (currently amended). ~~The operating method according to claim 26, which further comprises~~ An operating method for an electrical circuit containing an electrical energy store having a plurality of storage elements and a charge-equalizing circuit for charge equalizing between individual ones of the storage elements of the electrical energy store, the charge-equalizing circuit having a primary circuit and a plurality of secondary circuits, the primary circuit of the charge-equalizing circuit having a primary winding, the secondary circuits of the charge-equalizing circuit each have a secondary winding and in each case connected in parallel with an individual one of the storage elements, which comprises the steps of:

charging the electrical energy store using the charge-equalizing circuit;

charge equalizing between individual ones of the storage elements of the electrical energy store by the charge-equalizing circuit; and

during normal operation, connecting the electrical energy store to a first power supply and/or to a second power supply and in an idle condition disconnecting the electrical energy store from the first power supply and from the second power supply.

Claim 31 (currently amended). ~~The operating method according to claim 26, which further comprises:~~ An operating method for an electrical circuit containing an electrical energy store having a plurality of storage elements and a charge-equalizing circuit for charge equalizing between individual ones of the storage elements of the electrical energy store, the charge-equalizing circuit having a primary circuit and a plurality of secondary circuits, the primary circuit of the charge-equalizing circuit having a primary winding, the secondary circuits of the

charge-equalizing circuit each have a secondary winding and in each case connected in parallel with an individual one of the storage elements, which comprises the steps of:

charging the electrical energy store using the charge-equalizing circuit;

charge equalizing between individual ones of the storage elements of the electrical energy store by the charge-equalizing circuit;

checking a charging level of the electrical energy store in each case after a predefined period of time has elapsed; and

charging the electrical energy store if a predefined third minimum value has not been reached.

Claim 32 (previously presented). The operating method according to claim 26, which further comprises charging the electrical energy store in each case up to a predefined maximum value.